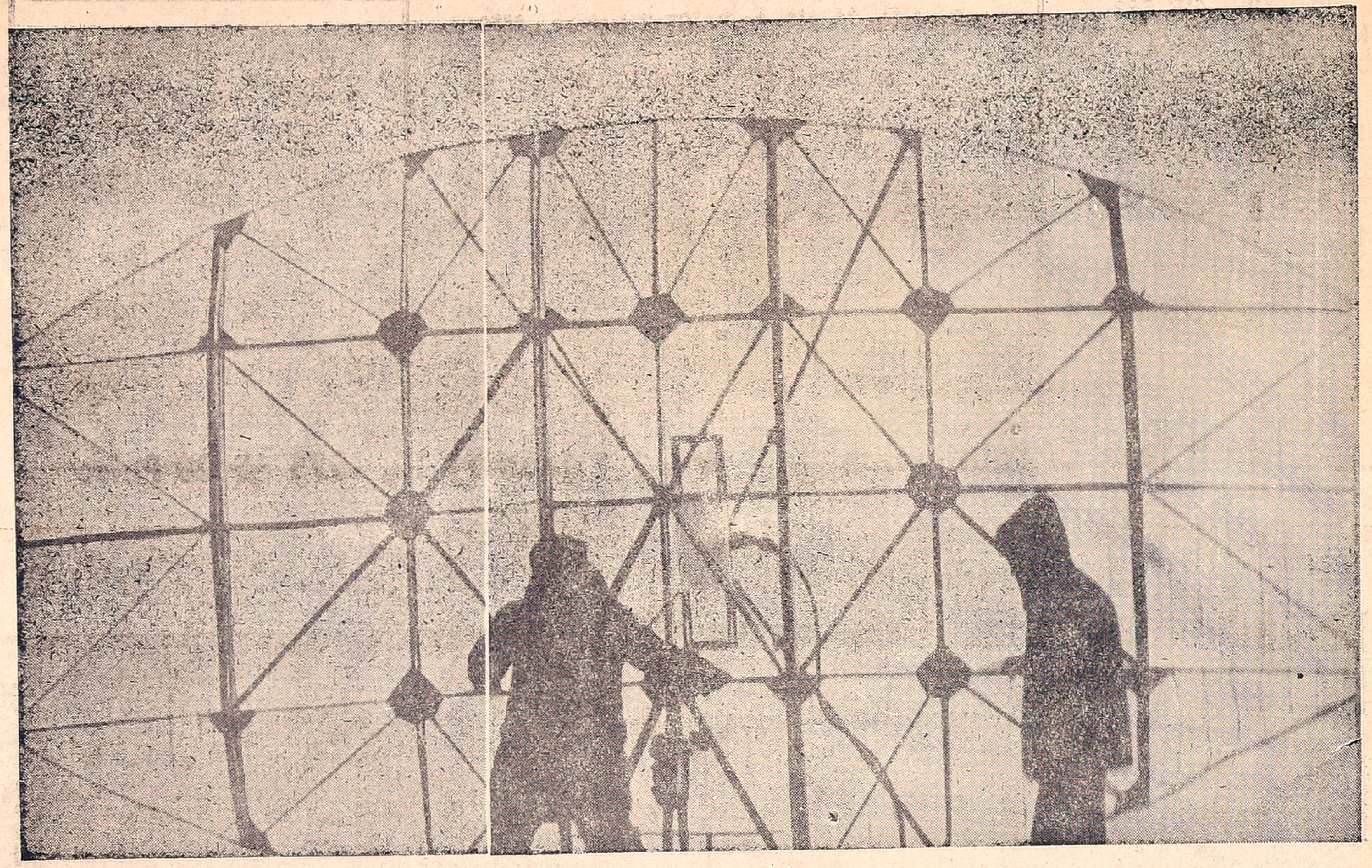
FREE INDIA

36th Year Of Publication ★ January 12, 1975 ★ 20 Paise

RECEIVED ON 13 JAN 1975

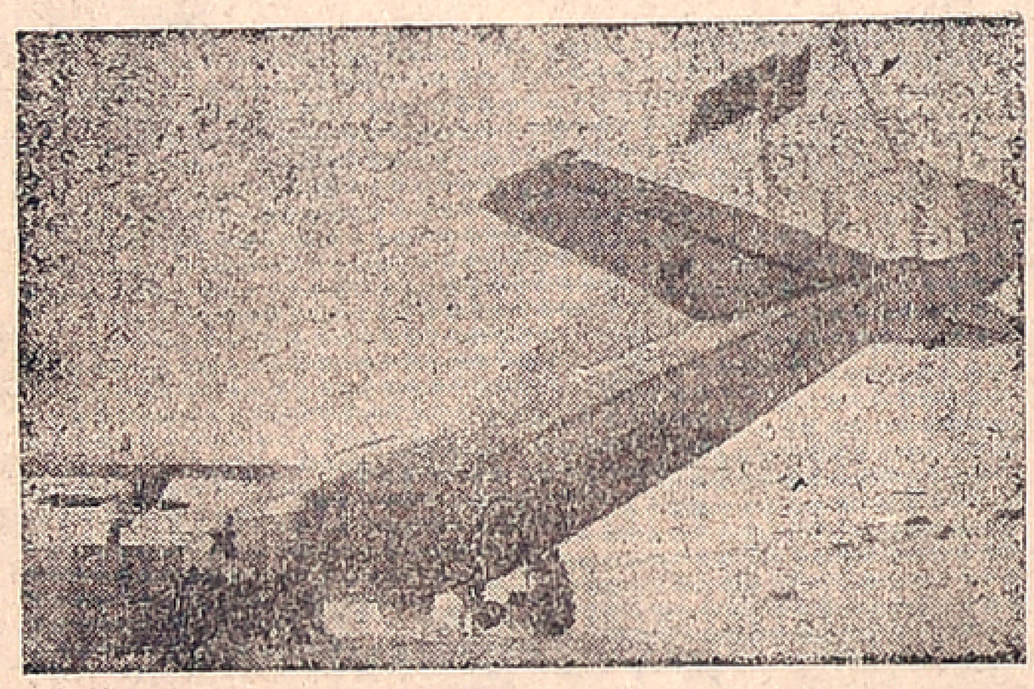
THE MISSING SCENE

SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY



Radar station in the Arctic

Mystery Of The Arctic



Aeroplanes of the Soviet high-latitude expedition transport rations, etc.

THE investigation of the bed of the Arctic Ocean makes it possible for us to assume quite confidently that the ocean had arisen in place of land because of the splitting up of continents.

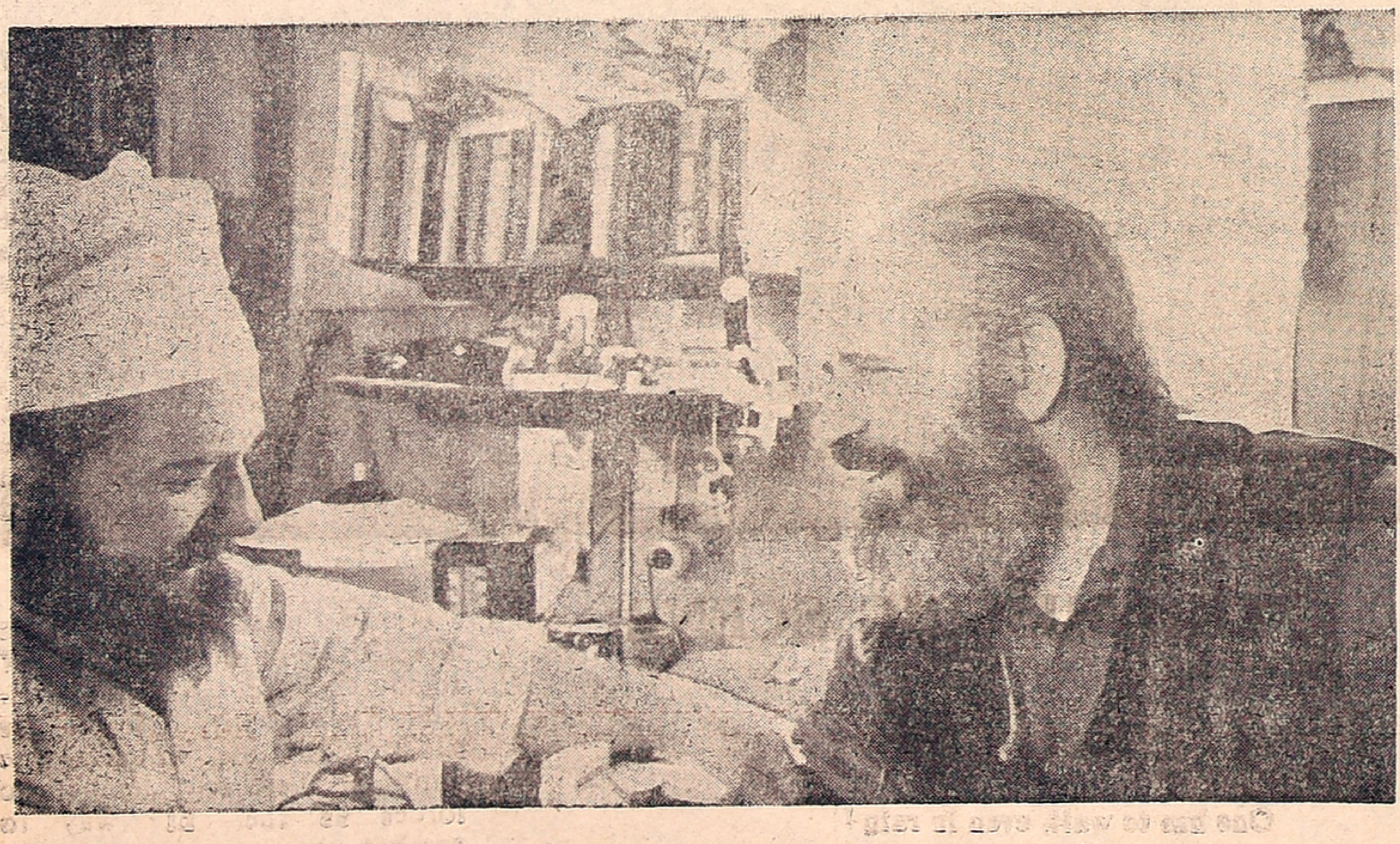
The study of the secrets of the Ocean is conducted not only at the poles or on ice-floes but also on the coast and islands, which have become sort of outposts of science in the exploration of the Arctic Ocean.

One such isles is the Golymvanny of the Severnyaya Zemlya Archipelago. Every morning noon and evening a man appear on the shore of the Golymyanny On his shoulder is an ice-drill. Some five to 10 metres from the shore he drills a hole.

This is the young Polar worker Anatoli B labanov. a hydrologist by profession He is making a study of ice-movement and hummocking, tides and ebbs, and the thawing of snow.

The knowledge of the turbulence of the ocean is of practical importance especially to skippers of ice-breakers in convoying ships, scientists of drifting Polar stations and members of expeditions. They help forecast the behaviour of the Ocean, warn about undesirable phenomena, such as the thawing of icebergs. Scientists have proved that if, as a result of the thawing of icebergs, the level of the ocean waters rises by 66 metres, waves will inundate extensive coastlines of the north-western Europe the south-western shores of the USA, and the west-Siberian low lands, which may prove to be a serious threat to many centres of world culture and industry. There is only one conclusion that suggests itself: Icebergs are natural "refrigerators" of the planet, they have to be safe-

(Contd. on page 11)



Regular prophylactic examinations are of paramount importance.

ON 13 JAN 1975

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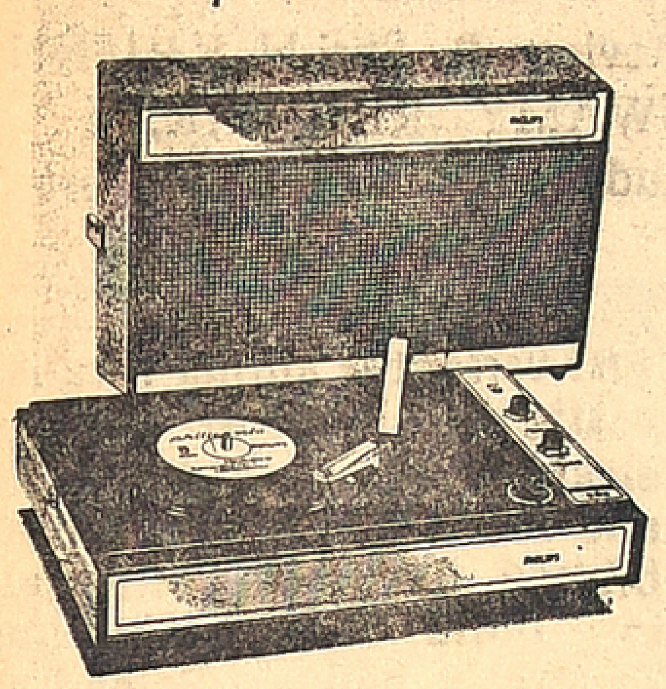

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36th YEAR OF PUBLICATION

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Pre-'69 Character Of Congress Being Revived ?

IT is not strange that while the world at large gives due recognition to India's independence and sovereignty, there are forces operating in this country to undermine its democratic institutions and impair its independence and sovereignty, writes the Mainstream in an editorial.

It adds : Whatever the garb—of "partyless democracy", of "people's alternative" and so on—the sum total of the movement launched has so far only succeeded in exposing itself as nothing but a mere conglomeration of desparate elements which have nothing to do with the struggle to solve the problems faced by the people. The fear of an impending poll has roused in them the vision of forging another grand alliance or what has been euphemistically called "people's alternative", so that some of these can avert the danger of being reduced to a state of total irrelevance in Indian politics.

OUT OF TUNE

But each of them is also conscious that it is out of tune with the aspirations of the people. And, hence, repeated efforts are going on to bring about a semblance of unity for survival, as is to be the next round of talks scheduled in New Delhi for "removing misgivings" after having drawn a blank at Varanasi.

The renewed efforts, it is becoming more and more evident, are the results of new proddings from those who are determined to undermine the democratic institutions and along with the country's independence and sovereignty, so that India could again be forced to toe the lines laid down by world imperialism which is now desperately looking for opportunities to escape from the clutches of the serious crisis of the entire capitalist system. And that desperation adds to the urgency of action.

It is also a fact that the disarray within the Congress, the hesitancy to forge Left and democratic unity on a programme of winning the urgent demands of the people and politically mobilising them to oppose the grand alliance of Reaction, has infused the Rightists with renewed confidence.

BASIC MOTIVES

The victories scored by the Jana Sangh in byelections to the Delhi Metropolitan Council and the Madhya Pradesh Assembly, have been paraded as the people's disgust with and rejection of the Congress. There is no doubt that a strong popular discontent exists against the failures of the Congress administrations to meet even the bare minimum needs of the people. The leaders of the Congress need to deeply ponder over the situation and analyse it and, if need be, drastically change the methods of functioning in the administration.

But also glaring is the fact tha at both the places there has been total sabotage within the party in which its local luminaries have played the most outstanding role.

Not the removal of the difficulties of the people, not the struggle to win their demands, but the garnering of power and pelf—this has been the basic motivations of those set up as party managers in different regions. It would almost seem that the pre 1969 character of the Congress had been revived and no change in the people's mood is noticed by these gentlemen.

And perhaps, the Congress high command would do well even now to look deep into the party structure so that, in time, it is able to weed out of the organisation the elements who do not subscribe to its policies and programmes. If there is any validity in holding Congress camps in different parts of the country, it should be to strengthen the organisation and not open way for its further degeneration.

SUICIDAL

While one would readily concede that the adverse result in a byelection here and another there cannot make a difference in the entire set of policies and programmes, it is all the same clear that something has seriously gone wrong in those areas where the people could still be mobilised by an openly communal, reactionary party, and that its propaganda could not be met by those who have pledged to stand by the people and fight for their rights and needs.

It would be suicidal to dismiss these byelection results as of no consequence. And a particular responsibility rests in this situation on those who view the unity of Left and democratic forces as the only way to combat the growing onslaught of Reaction, and to win the urgent demands of the people.

Suffer, With Grace

By P. B. SREENIVOS

Waiting for a very late-coming train
Does cause–very great strain on the brain
Passing time in anxiety
Patience will soon get empty.

People may swoon with disgust
And with increasing distrust
Neither they can go home back
Nor can idle, seeing the track.

But then, who can help them at all !
None could be blamed for such a thing small
When big problems look in the face
People have to suffer, with grace.

Great men too won't come in time
After all delay is not a crime
So, let no one blame any train
One has to wait, even in rain !

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

There are two aspects of things—the outward and the inward. The outward has no meaning except in so far as it helps the inward. All true Art is thus an expression of the soul. The outward forms have value only in so far as they are the expression of the inward spirit of man.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Jan. 12, 1975.

PONGAL SANS RICE

Another Pongal has come. This year without any rice for the poor.

Pongal is the season, when the peasants spend the time in mirth and merriment after a rich harvest. This is the happiest time in Tamil Nadu after Deepavali.

With the failure of monsoon, the State is in the grip of a severe famine. The scantily available foodgrains are not within the reach of the poor.

Nature as well as the responsible (or irresponsible ?) Government has let down the people, especially, in rural areas. There is no end to the gala festivals in cities in which the Ministers and elected representatives enthusiastically participate.

The loyal officials in the districts have been made to face the music.

The full effect of the drought is not yet felt. The coming months are going to be a period of great strain for the poor and the middle class.

—

MISHRA MYSTERY

Who killed the union Railway Minister Mishra? It is still a mystery one week after the tragic incident.

After twenty eight years of freedom, a cabinet minister of a popular government has been killed at a largely attended public function.

It is impossible to provide protection to all our Ministers. The right approach is to set up proper machinery to look into the grievances and complaints of people promptly. Public enquiry of charges are important to let off steam. This will help in maintaining cordial relationship between the people and the Government in a democracy.

New Book

JAYADEVA

Review By Shri N. KRISHNASWAMY REDDIAR, Judge, Madras High Court

Sahitya Akademi has planned to bring out a series of monographs in English about the outstanding Indian writers who had made a contribution of abiding value for the growth and development of literature in Indian languages under the title "Makers of Indian Literature". In this series, Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterji, the National Professor of India in Humanities and President of the Sahithya Akademi has written the monograph on Sri Jayadeva, the author of "Gita Govinda". It is now almost well-established that Shri Jayadeva, the author of "Gita Govinda" had flourished during the second half of the 12th century and was one of the court-poets of Lakshmana-Sena, the last Hindu king of Bengal. Though there were several authors of the name Jayadeva in Sanskrit literature it is pointed out by the author that no reliable information is available about any of them excepting for the post of "Gita-Govi da". In this small booklet containing 67 pages, the author has made a critical study of Sri Jayadeva and his poems from both historical and literary point of vi w in a masterly manner. In respect of the rival claims made by Bengal, Orissa and Mithila about the birth place of Sri Jayadeva, the author in an unbiased and lucid analysis, but citing acceptable authorities had opined that Jayadeva must have lived in Kenduli in Birbhum District, in West Bengal, which village is associated in the name of Jayadeva for nearly about 800 years by means of the annual popular mela when Vaishnava pilgrims meet and celebrate in memory of Sri Jayadeva and his "Gita-Govinda".

SANG FOR THE NEW AGE

Shri Jayadeva, as pointed out by the author, was the last of the classical poets of Sanskrit of pan-Indian celebrity, whose influence on the later poets and scholars all over India through his single work, the Gita-Govinda, is almost comparable to that of the great Kalidasa himself. But, however, the era of classical Sanskrit poetry closes with the 12th century on the coming of the Turks and a new age in Indian literature, namely vernacular age had begun. It is rightly pointed out by the author that Sri Jayadeva sang not only the swan-song of the age which was passing away, but he also sang in the advent of a new age in Indian literature and, therefore, he can truly be called "the Last of Anients, and the First of the Moderns" in Indian poetry.

Sri Jayadeva has been a most charming singer of the earthly and erotic love of Krishna and Radha, which received a great admiration from the masses all over the country, literate and illiterate, as the flow of the poem with sweet melody is so easy to sing.

LIKE RAMANUJA

The "Gita Govinda" obtained the status of religious work in the eyes of devout Vaishnavites. Jayadeva is known as a Vaishnavite poet. But the author points out that a few slokas out of thirty one slokas of Jayadeva are in praise of Siva and therefore, in all probability, to start with, Jayadeva must have been a Smartha, worshipper of five or six deities and that later he should have become a great Vaishnavite poet and Saint when the Vaishnavas established themselves as a dominant sect. This statement of the author appears to be true when compared with the life of Ramanuja, the great South Indian Vaishnava Acharya. Ramanuja was originally a Smartha and later became the prominent propounder of Sri Vaishnava cult.

JOYOUS SPRING

In the interpretation of the opening verse of "Gita Govinda", the author mildly repels the view taken by orthodox Vaishnavites giving a twist to its simple and plain meaning and stresses the great poetic value of the opening lines of the first verse, as a wonderful evoking of a dark cloudy monsoon night. "Nature" in Jayadeva's Gita Govinda has the background of the joyous season of spring, brilliant with the sun's light and gorgeous with various colours of the green plants and the flowers, and resonant with the music of the songs of birds and the humming of bees and reolent with the fragrance of flowers. In comparing the marvellous poetic beauty of the first verse, the author recalls the aesthetic eloquence and artistic elegance of a Japanesa tanka and refers to the enthusiasm exhibited by great literary artists in India like Rabindranath Tagore and Balendranath Tagore, in admiring the "word magic" and the "picture magic" evoked by the Muse of Jayadeva in this verse. The author himself revels in the innate poetic sweetness and the grandeur of this verse.

MANY STYLES

Jayadeva is a poet of many styles. The author deals with the 26 verses ascribed to Jayadeva as given in the Saduktl-Karnamrita in Chapter VI of the booklet and points out that though Jayadeva was master of "Singara-Rasa", he could be equally at home in all the other Rasas [such as 'Vira', 'Raudra', 'Adbhuta' and 'Santha' and these have also been treated by Jayadeva with equal beauty and force.

40 COMMENTARIES

The 'Gita Govinda' of Jayadeva with its charming form gave a fillip to Bakti movement all over India and within hundred years after its appearance, about 40 commentaries came into existence. The commentators belonged to all parts of India including South India. Jayadeva's poetic genius was appreciated by western scholars. 'Gita Govinda' has been translated into English, German, French and other European languages and it has been now accepted as one of the masterpieces even of world literature.

The author refers in Chapter VII that 'Gita Govinda' is a Reflex of late middle Indo Aryan or early New Indo-Aryan literature in its songs. The two hymns ascribed to Jayadeva in the Sri Guru Santh Sahib (Adi Granth) in the opinion of the author, could have been sung by Jayadeva of 'Gita-Govinda' and this would make him one of the first poets in Basha (Vernacullar

(Contd. on page 9)

THE FAMOUS ASTROLOGER
(OFFICE ESTD : 1924)
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My Daughter's Mother-In-Law And Other Gaps In English

English is a versatile language, suited to humor, philosophy, trade, technology, poetry, politics, and scholarship. It has accumulated more words than other languages, and the many admixtures in its development often provide various expressions for the same thing, each with distinctive nuances. We can choose among *regal, royal, Kingly*; among *flood, deluge, inundation*.

Why are these riches not sufficient/adequate/enough for me? I often stumble against objects or ideas to which I can't match a concise expression. The word-coiners have not been idle; they've come through with new words like *smog, documentary*, and *granola*, with combinations like *hangup* and *countdown*. But they've missed some spots where invention would be welcome.

Crucial verbs are missing. Where is the opposite for *exceed*? What can I use if I wish to *envision* a sound or taste? There is a verb form for *fusion*; why not for *fission*? How can I express an accidental suggesting? *Hint, imply, insinuate*, and *intimate* all include intention. The verb I use for the trial-and-error process of fitting jigsaw puzzle pieces together is *conniggle* (noun form, *conniggling*). But my friends tell me this isn't a "real" word.

Our family fares badly with its neologisms. My mother invented or inherited the verb *mounce*, "to whine complainingly." I always thought *mounce* was a 'real" word until informed that I must be muddling *mince* and *grouse*. My son wanting an adjective for "causing a feeling of happiness," adapted *felificent* from the Latin. We sprinkle *felifican* through conversations and correspondence, but no one else adopts it. We're working now on an adjective from of *integrity*. *Integral* and *integrated* are already taken. *Integritous*?

These may seem like private grumblings. But there's nothing private about the demand for a word meaning "it is hoped," to avoid abusing *hopefully*. Why can't we devise a solution? The German *hoffentlich* might be imported. Or perhaps a new word with a French beginning and a Lalin third-person ending, namely *espart*? *Hopefully* could then pull back to its corner, signifying "in a hopeful manner."

Sometimes technology outpaces the language to label its products. What do we call letters not personally written to us yet not exactly form letters either? (Thanks to programmed typewriting, our name is inserted at intervals in a manner meant to flatter.) Long ago, the clothing business devised *customfitted suit* for a garment made to no particular measure yet intended for adjustment, beyond clothes sold from the rack. Some day the customfitted letter will get its name tag.

The delay could be long. We still have no word for one old familar artifact — the slottee spoon that lifts solid food from the liquid in which it is cooked.

These missing expressions should spur on those with a talent for filling the gaps. One last category deserves their notice — family relationships. We do reasonably well with blood relatives, although labels like *second cousin once removed* could use less wordy replacements. But marriage relationships are badly served. I have an urgent problem now. My daughter is getting married. Her future husband's parents are congenial people whom we'll see often. How can I talk about them and introduce them? Word-coiners, get busy! There's very little time left to save me from *my daughter's mother-in-law*!

Florence Trefethen

Would readers like to help Mrs. Trefethen?

A Gnu Language

As a matter of fact, "gnu" is out, now a days. The authors of crossword puzzles have given up on it. It's too trite even for them.

However, they have contrived to fill their little squares with enough words, mostly unknown in Ordinary vocabularies, to make a monkey out of the English language. Indeed, so far out are many current definitions that whole dictionaries of crosswordese are being published.

These books tell that Cleopatra's maid was Iris, that a Philippine buffalo is an anoa, that a Japanese sash is an obi, that an old card game was loo, and that an Indian is an Erie, a Ute, or Oto or Otoe or even a Ree. One who has learned the lingo knows when to put in oboe, elemi, aloe, ereca, emir or ameer, anil, aril...

Puzzle addicts have to learn the new language. As in opening a safe, it's not hard when you know the combination.

—Boston Globe

The Moral Problem Of Inflation

Nobody goes to the ironmonger because he wants a loaf of bread...But a great many of us, troubled by inflation, turn for an answer to the politicians.

I want to suggest that it is'nt their kind of problem – the answer to it (if there is one) will have little to do with new laws and policies...At heart, it's a religios and moral problem: its solution (if any) will be found in the kind of shop kept by priests and preachers and prophets and moralists. At best, politicians and parliaments can mitigate the damage: they can't go to the root of the problem.

What *is* inflation, after all? It's an economist's word for over-consumption; for living beyond your income; for taking more out of the kitty than you put in. This has become a near-universal habit in "developed" countries: in ours more than most. The fact is that we've all got ideas above our station; we have come to take for granted a quite fanciful and unrealistic notion of the "standard of living" to which we are entitled, as though by divine right. Why *shouldn't* I have fillet steak for dinner every day? Why *shouldn't* I have a jet-holiday in Mallorca every year? Why *should* I work long hard hours at some dreary job, and for a low wage?

Alas, there's no "should" or "shouldn't" about it. The fact, of artithmetic are what they are. The world simply can't provide all that many fillet steaks, and its reserves of jet-fuel are running low. There's no question of moral entitlement at any point. Each man is in this world naked and hungry until somebody does something about it, something which will usually be difficult and laborious: no kind of society can be kept in being unless a very large proportion of its people are prepared to work hard at monotonous tasks for a fairly small economic reward. To resent this is to resent the fact that two and two don't make fifteen...

Overlooking these realities and living as a man who inherited a thousand pounds and then proceeded to live it up at a hundred pounds a day, we have built into the structures of our society the deadly sins of pride, envy, avarice, gluttony and sloth. The outcome is what we call inflation; and to help this process along, we have conveniently forgotten two sound old principles — the principle that it is a disgrace, a moral failing, to be in debt; and the principle (long asserted be every Christian moralist) that usury is a sin.

In so far as those to principles return to power, in so far as those five deadly sins are repented, the problem of inflation will simply cease to exist...

The only thing that will "save the country" is a revolution of falling expectation: no vote-seeker can afford to be honest about this fact. But no side of industry can afford to be honest about it either: capital, management, labour, they all depend upon our continued addiction to levels of consumption which cannot possibly be sustained. Those five deadly sins are their bread-and-butter, and are therefore inflamed by every advertising campaign every trade union claim.

We are left with the churches, and they ought to be on their own ground here...Can the ministers of Christ help us, with ledership and dogma and moral exhortation?

If they cannot, or cannot be bothered, we are in a bad way indeed. The answer to inflation is to be sought in their kind of shop. —The Times (London)

Composting Mail

A letter writer to The Oregonian, U.S., Dorothy J. Lee, reports the disturbing news that letters sent without zip codes are simply disappearing, which ought to raise fears the post office may be headed toward an "Italian solution" to the mail problem.

In Italy, where Christmas mail often arrived at mid-summer, various strikes caused a backlog of mail, which, for lack of space was stacked in the catacombs along with the bones of the early Romans. Then it was discovered the mail was being recycled back to a paper manufacturer.

Some enterprising Italians had simply sold the mail — love letters, bills, paychecks and advertisements — that the post office could not find time to deliver.

This was known for awhile as the "scandal of Bergamo," but it eventually reached the notice of the highest levels of government, where a crazy quilt coalition of Christian Democrats and Socialists, prodded by the Communist Party, did what government does best: Established a commission to study the problem.

The United States has more mail than any nation in the world. The country also has a paper supply problem. Its recycling and composting capabilities are also superior to those of Italy. Thus, the temptation to seek an Italian solution to both the mail and ecology problems like that found by the "sottogoverno" officials in Bergamo must be considerable.

—The Oregonian

FUN AND LAUGHTER

BREEZY !

The admiral was examining his youngest officer's knowledge of nautical matters.

"Suppose, young man", he rapped out, "you were in charge of this ship and steaming slowly up the Ganges when you received a wireless message reporting a cyclone at sea. What would you do?"

The young man, somewhat flustered, stammered: "I—I'd drop an anchor, sir."

"Supposing you received another message half an hour later that the cyclone was over Calcutta. What would you do then?"

"I—I'd drop another anchor, sir."

The admiral looked far from satisfied.

"But suppose it was ten times worse than that. What would you do?"

The young man strove despairingly to think of something bright. At last he whispered: "I'd—drop another anchor, sir."

"Good Heavens!" roared the admiral, "where the deuce do you get all the anchors!"

"And where the deuce" the junior officer flung at him desperately, "do you get all the wind?"

DEFINITION

The Ruridecanal Conference was at lunch, and a discussion had arisen as to the duties of the laity in country parishes.

"The activities of the laywoman," said an authoritative voice "must be definitely organized."

"What is a laywoman precisely?" someone asked.

The Rural Dean's sixteen year-old daughter, breaking a long and brilliant silence: "A hen!"

* * *

SURPRISE !

A Quaker pastor was holding forth on the vanities of women. "If there's a sister in this church who has not spent more time primping than praying, I want her to stand." As the preacher waited, a dowdy sister rose to her feet. The Quaker looked her over critically and remarked: "Sister, thee had better go home and primp a little."

ONE HOUR YOUNG !

Working on early shift in a War Department office, I usually breakfasted at a certain small cafe. Every morning I noticed an elderly woman come in and order a good breakfast. Because she looked so very old and frail, I was somewhat puzzled by her early morning routine. One day I asked her if she had a war job.

"No" she replied with a sprightly smile. "I'm nearing 80 and no one would give me a job now. But years ago when I was raising my family, I always had to get up early and work hard. Now I'm alone with nothing to do, so I like to come in here and eat before daylight and pretend that I'm going to work with the rest of you. This"—she glanced merrily about her—"this is the highlight of my day. For this hour I feel young again"—Nellie Norris.

* * *

BACK AGAIN !

"The blizzard had turned Chicago's Michigan Avenue into a pedestrian hazard of churned up slush. A pretty young thing, standing irresolutely at the cross ing, extended a dainty foot and as hastily withdrew it. The big Irish traffic cop regarded her sympathetically. It took but a minute to blow his whistle, stride to the carb, gather her up in his arms and deposit her carefully on the other side. Whereupon the young lady, her eyes blazing, slapped him—hard. Without a word he once more swept her from her feet and bore her, kicking back to her original position. Then he released the traffic.

* * *

ON THE SEA ?

It happened aboard a streetcar in Victoria. Two soldiers, obviously a bit on the tipsy side, climbed into the crowded car and pushed their way into the interior. Digging into his pocket one handed 12 cents for their fares to a uniformed man standing near the controls of the car. The man stared at them icily. "I'm a naval officer," he informed the lads in khaki.

This appeared to confuse the soldiers "Hey," one mumbled to his chum, "lets get out of here! We're on a warship."

* * *

ONE AT A TIME !

It was one of those blistering Alabama days I had called on a student to read aloud a brief paragraph from an essay. This he did, laboriously. When he finished I asked him to comment on the significance of the passage which he had just read. His earnest reply brought even the sleepiest student to a hilarious awakening. For he said, "I am sorry, sir, but I wasn't listening."

—*Newton Baker.*

IN KIND

A merchant heard that the natives of an island in the South Seas had more gold than they knew what to do with, so he decided to help them out. He sailed to their island with a boatload of onions. The natives had never tasted onions, and were delighted with them; they exchanged a shipload of gold for the onions.

The merchant's business rival was enraged when he heard of this, but decided that if the natives liked onions they would surely like garlic better. He therefore took them a shipload of garlic and, true enough, they were delighted.

When he asked for gold in return, they told him they wouldn't think of giving him anything so common, and insisted upon turning over to him their most prized possession—the shipload of onions!

* * *

PERFECT ANGEL !

Intent upon joining the Air Force and earning his wings, the young man rushed over to the recruiting office to enlist.

"We'll have to ask you a few questions," began the officer in charge. "First of all do you gamble?"

"No, Sir."

"Do you drink?"

"No, Sir."

"Do you smoke or swear?"

"No Sir."

"Do you go out with women?"

"No, Sir."

The officer sat back and looked the young man over carefully. "What do you want with wings?" he asked at length "You already have them."

* * *

THE RIGHT PLACE

Lord Pomp was making a periodical visit to a certain mental hospital. Nearing the main entrance, he saw emerging towards him a very well dressed gentleman. Thinking him connected with the place, he greeted him with a polite "Good morning."

The person returned the greeting and halted, remarking: "Are you going to the hospital, sir?"

"Yes," was the reply, "I'm Lord Pomp."

"Go on in, sir," came the rejoinder "they'll cure you. I thought I was Napoleon when I came here first."

* * *

MORE HORRID !

A Boston lady was expressing other indignation at the indecent words being pained on the walls and sidewalks of the city "What will outsiders think of us?" she cried. "Why, some of the words aren't even spelled right!"

WORTH TRYING

A young man whose knowledge of cards was vague was roped in to complete a bridge four.

He committed his first mistake by throwing away a king on a trick already taken by his opponent's ace.

"Good Heavens!" bellowed the young man's partner, "a king doesn't usually beat an ace."

"I know," stammerred the beginner, "but I thought I'd let it have a try."

* * *

He was at his club, and he had talked politics for an hour and a half.

"That's the situation in a nutshell," he declared at the close.

"Heavens!" exclaimed a member to his neighbour, "what a nut!"

* * *

BUT THE WICK !

A thrifty American Dutch stock-raiser was known as the stingiest man in his country. His parsimony nearly worried him into a stroke when a visiting grand-daughter stayed up till 10 p.m. reading by a small kerosene lamp

"Turn out that light!" roared the old skinflint.

"But, Grandpa," protested the young lady, "I'm buying the kerosene."

"I know, I know," he stormed "but you're burning my wick!"

* * *

BEST WAY !

A committee was appointed by the magazine *Redbook*, to study the question of how best to hold a wife, and a selected list of husbands was written to. The only reply received was from a certain western penitentiary. It stated briefly: "I found the best way was around the neck, but it should not be overdone. Please note change of address."

* * *

ANGEL'S OUTLOOK !

The good lady was horrified to see the angelic-looking six year-old girl seated next to her in the street-car calmly reading the obituary notices in the paper.

"My gracious," cried the lady, "do you read those?"

"Oh, yes," replied the little girl. "First I read the funnies, then I read the sads."

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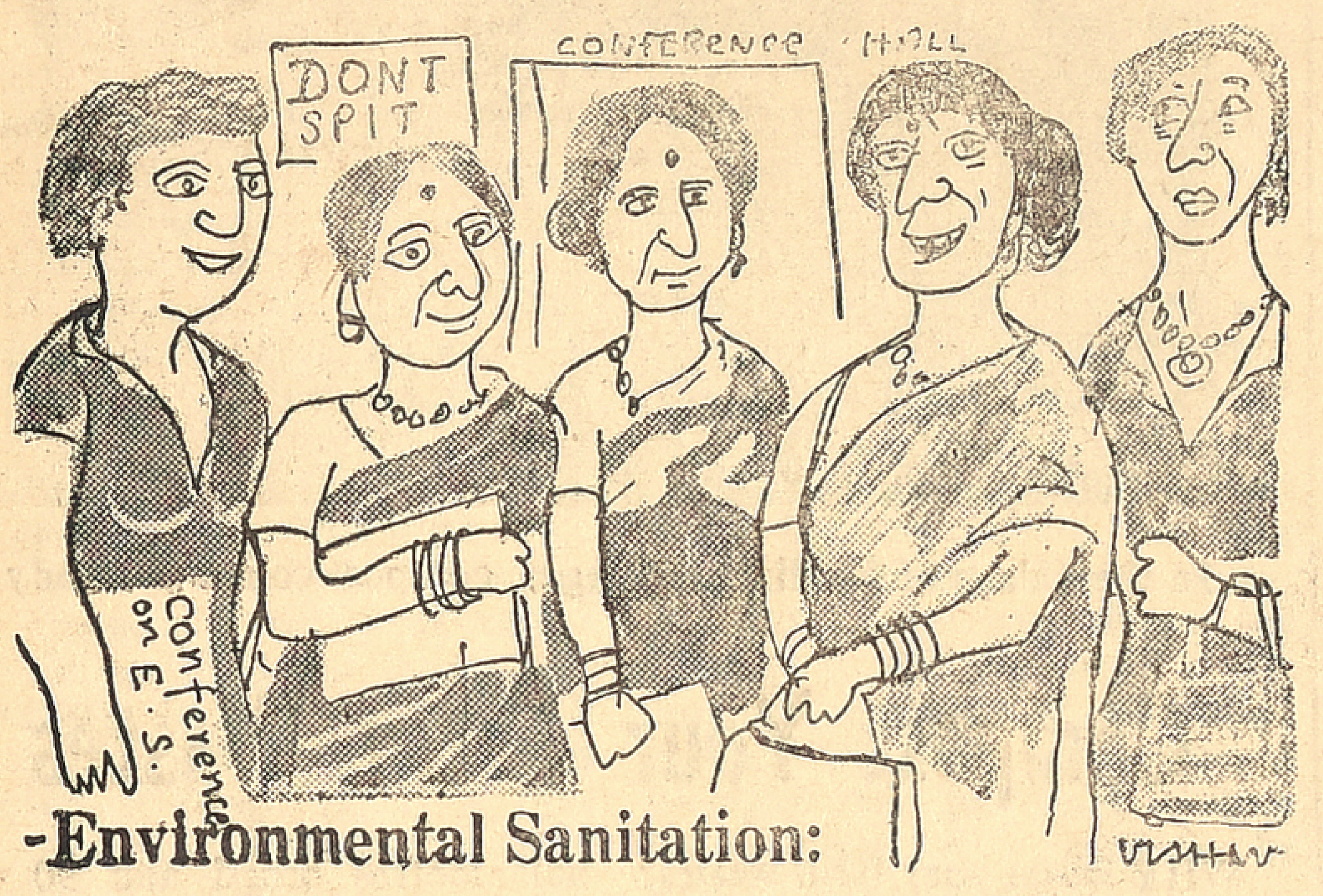
Comments By Vishnu



-Environmental Sanitation:

"I'm opposed to a secret ballot because I'm not Confident that you will vote for my resolution to eliminate males as part of our anti-pollution campaign..."

1975—International Women's Year

According to the United Nations this is International Women's Year. It is a year when everyone is expected to concentrate on finding ways and means to improve women's status both legally and generally. Since the accent is on women and women's problems one should not be unduly surprised if in these columns a large emphasis is given to Women's matters and about their health in particular.

Many years ago I was trying to get into the lecture hall at Cambridge University and it was very crowded because the lecturer was very popular. An elderly man with silvery hair and a beaked nose was also trying to get in and he said to me "I wonder how well to get in". Finally he managed to enter and then when people recognised him they made way for him because he was the lecturer. His name...Bertrand Russell.

Bertrand Russell once wrote: Owing to the subjection of women there has in most civilized communities been no genuine companionship between husbands and wives; their relation has been one of condescension on the one side and duty on the other.

Logic

Marriage is an Institution.
Marriage is Love.
Love is Blind.
Therefore, marriage is an Institution for the Blind.

* * *

Prof. Salim Ali

When I was a student at the Doon Public School at Dehra Dun we had a school master who used to take us students out to the sorrounding woods for bird-watching. That teacher left the school and became one of the celebrated International authorities in Ornithology. Prof. Salim Ali is now the President of the Bombay Natural History Society. The other day he took Mrs. Indira Gandhi around the museum and she was fascinated by some of the birds.

Perhaps the most interesting Indian bird is the "Brain fever bird" which has been described by many an English author who has written about his life in India. The brain fever bird has great potentialities as the following story might suggest.

Brain Fever Bird

A Journalist once lived in the ground floor of a house the upstaires of which was occupied by the landlord. The landlord had a big hoard of children and they in turn had a large circle of young friends who used to come and play and create a terrific racket so that one could barely hear one's own voice above the din. The journalist made several oral and written representations to the landlord to do something to control the noise but the only interest the landlord had was to turn up promptly to collect rent on the day it was due to be paid to him. At a loss to know what to do the journalist confided his troubles to an ornithologist. This learned man said "Get yourself a stock of tranquilisers and I will obtain for you on loan three brainfever birds in a cage".

The journalist began consuming ever increasing doses of tranquilisers to stand the strain while the brain fever birds he had brought home made their incessant shrill and monotonous cries which drove the landlord insane. Finally within three days the landlord and his family had to be rushed to a mental hospital to take prolonged psychiatric treatment. When they returned after being cured they went out of their way to be pleasant to the journalist who by how had returned the birds to his friend the ornithologist. The landlord not only never bothered even if the rent was over due by a few days but went out of his way to see that there was no unnecessary noise as far as he could help in the immediate neighbourhood.

Birds are not necessarily always decorative pieces to be seen in sanctuaries. Some of them can be put to practical use.

The Better Half

The multimillionaire was being interviewed about his self-made fortune. "And I must give my wife full credit for her assistance," he said. 'In what way did she help?" asked the reporter. "If you want the whole truth," said the millionaire, "I was just curious to find out if there were any income she couldn't live beyond."

"More Smiles in The Land of smiles." India's first woman, Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi, smilingly receives an on-the-spot cartoon from Vishnu, while Mrs. Maragatharm Chandrasekhar looks on.

News Bits

No Concession !

Madam Lily Moro is a poor woman, living on pension in Brussels. She requested the Television Board of Belgium to reduce the television charges, since she is poor. But the Television Board replied that concession in television charges is allowed only to blinds.

* * *

The Contemporary Life

A drama theatre in Lyons (France) staged a play called 'Scenes from the contemporary life'. The play runs for 12 hours. However the audience are allowed to go from the hall during the scenes, says the advertisement.

* * *

Automatic Cradle

A New York engineer has constructed an automatic cradle. As soon as the child starts crying the cradle starts swinging. If the child continues crying, a tape recorder is switched on and a lullaby in soft tone is heard. When this also doesn't help, an alarm starts ringing to wake up the parents. If the child becomes silent the automatic is switched off.

* * *

Advantage Of Oil Crisis

Due to rationing of petrol in Holland, everybody is required before getting coupons for petrol to show a registered book with remarks about the payment of automobile taxes. Then they found out that in the country 250 thousand automobiles are 'illegal', whose owners have evaded paying automobile taxes.

* * *

Another Record

A driver from the West German city Dortmund has become 'the champion in paying fine', who during the last 6 months was fined by police to a total sum of 5080 marks for breaking the rules of parking of cars.

* * *

Duty Conscious

A new method was adopted to prevent car thefts in Ohio, USA. The Government decided to give a special prize to the policeman who finds out the car and the thief. Any policeman who receives 5 such prizes, will be presented with a car !

Result: The efficiency of the police in finding out car thefts has gone up by 49 per cent.

Tit-Bits On Men And Matters

By T. NEELAKANTAN
(General Knowledge Agency)

FROM A 'PIG-BOY' TO A NOBEL PRIZE WINNER

Ralph Bunche, to whom the Nobel Prize for Peace was awarded in 1950, was one among those who rose up in life from very humble beginnings. He was born in a Negro family of America in 1904. His grandfather was a slave under a white American. His father was a barber. As his family was very poor, Ralph Bunche had to work even as a boy of seven years and earn, so as to be of assistance to his parents. For some time, he worked as a 'pig-boy' too. In spite of all these, he studied in a school. After finishing his education in the school, he joined the college. While studying for the post-graduate course, he was very much handicapped for want of finance. Then, a Negro Women's Club helped him. After obtaining the M.A. degree, he secured an appointment as an Instructor in the Harward University. And when the United Nations was formed, he became one of the first members of its secretariat.

In the war between the Arabs and the Jews over the control of Palestine, the United Nations intervened. Count Bernadotte of Sweeden was sent to mediate in the dispute with Ralph Bunche as the Second in command. In the course of the mediation, Bernadotte died under tragic circumstances. Ralph Bunche therefore became the Acting Mediator in 19 8. He was successful in bringing about a compromise between the two parties, and he was acclaimed as a very good Mediator. As the Principal Director of the Department of Trusteeship of United Nations, he earned a name. He was a great scholar and a good speaker. He received 37 Honorary Degrees from Colleges and Universities.

THE HANDS THAT HELP AND THE LIPS THAT PRAY

"The old religions said that he was an atheist who did not believe in God. The new religion says that he is an atheist who does not believe in himself"– so said Swami Vivekananda. He who does not believe in himself, may not believe in his obligations to the society too. The conveniences and the comforts that the modern man enjoys today, are due to the sacrifices made and the services rendered by men of the past. He should therefore discharge his obligations by doing his best for the benefit of the present and the coming generations. One may be an atheist and may not believe in God and religion. Still, he may not be taken to task but may be admired and respected if he serves the poor and the helpless. Rightly therefore, Robert Ingersole had said that "the hands that help are holier than the lips that pray".

Charles Bradlaugh was an atheist. He was a great sympathiser of the British working classes. He laboured for their welfare. In appreciation of his services, he was elected to the Parliament, he refused to observe certain conventions, which were according to him, meaningless. In spite of his rationalistic out-look and atheistic views, he was held in very high esteem, because of his humanitarian services. When he died in London in 1891, there was a huge funeral procession. Mahatma Gandhi was there then as a student. He along with many other Indian residents, joined the procession in which some Clergymen too participated. The presence of some Clergymen in the funeral procession of an atheist, laid emphasis on the belief that service to man is service to God.

Mrs CARRY NATION–THE LADY WITH A MISSION

When the earning member of a poor family is a drunkard the members of that family suffer a great deal. One among such sufferers was Mrs. Carry Nation of the City of Kansas in America. Her husband was an addict to drinks and he died leaving her penniless with a baby and her mother-in-law. She was therefore forced to support herself and her dependants by working in a school. After securing a job and solving her problem, she did not keep quiet. She wanted to work for the benefit of families similarly placed She took interest in the field of Prohibition. Very often she would set up a musical instrument on the pavement before public tavern and sing and pray requesting the addicts to obtain from liquor. In this persuasive way, some taverns were closed. But the process was slow. She wanted quick results. So she took to violent acts. One day in 1901, she entered a tavern with a hatchet in her hand. She broke the liquor bottles and the barrels. As she continued to do so, she was knocked down, beaten and kicked by those interested in the liquor trade. These beatings did not deter her from her mission. As a result of her persistent efforts, the antiliquor movement gathered strength and the Eighteenth Amendment to the American Constitution was brought into force in favour of Prohibition. This frail little woman, without any resources or facilities, was able to play a dominant role in a public cause and achieve some results mainly because of her sincerity of purpose and persistency in her efforts. Her life is a good example to public-workers.

In these days of fertilizer shortage, compost comes in handy

Compost Your Farm Wastes

WHY waste your farm wastes? Plant residues, husks, leaves, animal dung, urine and wood-ash can be turned into compost which is a very rich plant food. Compost not only provides plant food but it also improves the structure and physical condition of the soils.

You can prepare compost in pits or heaps depending upon the local conditions. Work out the number of pits you need taking into view the number of cattle you have and the availability of waste materials.

Select a high-level land and dig a pit four and half metres long, one and a half metre broad and 90 cm deep at one end and 105 cm. deep at the other end. Spread some litter, spoilt fodder, straw, etc. on the floor of the cattle shed. It will give a good bedding to your animals and will also absorb urine. This will make a good material for compost-making.

Now make a 135 cm by one and a half metre partition out of bamboo sticks, dry stalks of jowar, or maize. Fix this partition about 30 to 45 cm. away from the shallower end of the pit. In the morning collect urine soaked litter, dung and household refuse, mix them thoroughly and sprinkle some water on the mixture to make it moist. Spread the entire mixture in the first section of the pit. Sprinkle a thin layer of earth over it. Put the second day's collection over the first day's collection. Repeat till the mixture reaches 30 cm. high above the ground level. Cover it with 5 cm. layer of soil.

Shift the partition another 30 to 45 cm. away. Fill this compartment in the same way. Leave the mixture for 4 to 5 months to mature.

You can also make compost from special types of wastes like paddyhusk, sugarcane trash, water hyacinth, green and dry leaves and groundnut shells.

For this dig a pit four and a half metres long, one and a half metres broad and 90 cm. deep on a high level land. Spread the wastes in pit in a 23 cm. thick layer along with any litter, weeds, crop wates, etc. Sprinkle four to five buckets of water to moisten the material. Also spread slurry made from cow dung and urine soaked earth over it. Better add 100 kilos of superphosphate over this to enrich the compost.

Repeat the filling process till the pit is filled to a height of 45 cm. to 60 cm. above ground level. See that the top layer is of refuge. Cover it with a 5 cm. layer of soil. Make it dome shaped and finally plaster with mud and cow-dung. Keep it this way for 4 to 5 months.

You can prepare compost in heavy rainfall and water-logged areas in heaps instead of pits. Put 23 cm. layers of wastes and spread cow dung slurry over them repeatedly as you did in the case of filling pit. Cover it with a layer of soil and finally plaster it with mud and cow-dung. After 4 to 5 months you can get excellent quality compost which plants need most for higher yields.

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Homage To Rajaji

By K. K. SHAH, Governor of Tamil Nadu

Mahatmaji will be remembered by grateful generations not only as Father of the Nation but as an unique statesman who threw up great men of the stature and calibre of Jawahar, Sardar, Rajaji Maulana Azad, Subhash Bose and a score of others who in their right were able to lead the nation. Rajaji was not only the keeper of the conscience of Mahatmaji but was the touch stone for testing the validity of the programme and for assessing its moral and practical impact. Throughout his life, especially after the sad demise of Mahatmaji, he kept the torch of enlightened outlook burning.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister, Kalaignar Dr. Karunanidhi, lost no time, soon after the passing away of Rajaji, in drawing up plans for a suitable memorial in honour of Rajaji. The beautiful memorial has come up in record time. The crown that adorns this memorial symbolises the crown of Sri Ramachandra whose glory is sung in the epic Ramayana. Rajaji, in his life time, turned to the Ramayana for guidance and his English version has popularised the epic all over the world. I am sure this grand memorial so thoughtfully raised and so skilfully and beautifully executed, will be a source of inspiration to posterity.

PROPHET MISSED

A life which radiates lustre and provides guidance, when extinct, leaves a void sometimes for generations. Rajaji's passing away is keenly felt and sincerely mourned because the voice of wisdom and the prophet of dissent as he was in every minute, is today missing in all walks of life especially when we are struggling to strengthen norms of democracy.

Whether we agreed with Rajaji or not, we were in the habit of reading Swarajya where Raja'i's reactions and advice could be had. Rajaji is a mighty example and a demonstrative proof, if any proof were needed, of an intellectual of high calibre accepting the existence of God. If one goes through the writings of Rajaji, there is an undercurrent of mature philosophy and high scholarship. It is very difficult for intellectuals to get out of the walls built up by them as they are afraid of being inconsistent. Rajaji had the courage to modify his earlier views if circumstances demanded and had the ability and honesty to explain.

SHOOTING INCIDENT

The outstanding example of his approach to life being practical is provided by what is known as a shooting incident. It took place on his way from Namakkal to Salem. Luckily the man was not killed. It was his integrity and honesty which stood by him and even though he was prosecuted, he was exonerated. Even the licence that was taken away, was restored and the permanent District Magistrate, an Englishman, had to say that he should not have been prosecuted. How many, on such occasions, have the courage to tell the truth? He was so confident of his ability to stand by what he thought to be right that he cou'd neither be cornered nor could he be swayed either way.

To earn such encomiums from Gandhiji is not only rare but a real achievement. On 10th September, 1938, Gandhiji wrote in Harijan—"I have boundless faith in his (Rajaji's) wisdom, his uprightness, and his unsurpassed ability as a parliamentarian. He has to his credit no mean achievements. We have in our ranks no abler fighter in Satyagraha." On the 10th February 1946, Gandhiji wrote in Harijan—' Rajaji is one of my oldest friends and was known to be the best exponent, in word and deed, of all I stand for. That in 1942 he differed from, me I know. All honour for the boldness with which he publicly avowed the difference. He was a great social reformer never afraid to act according to his belief. His political wisdom and integrity are beyond question. '

RIGHT TO REBUKE

Rajaji earned the right to rebuke us and his classical wisdom was accepted to be a national asset. It was Rajaji who always emphasised that dogmatism is a mark of intellectual immaturity. In good manners, nobody could beat Rajaji. He believed that our culture embodied highest norms of personal behaviour and provided an ideal for others to follow. He observed highest courtesies. "Good manners," he said, "are like oil that keep the machine of human relation-moving smoothly and satisfactorily."

When Rajaji was born, his mother was worried about his health. He suffered from this handicap all his life but got over this handicap by sheer strength of will. He regulated his diet, took proper exercise and maintained his ability to put in hard mental and physical work.

In conversation and arguments, he had few equals. He invariably impressed others and made them listen. President Kennedy was so deeply impressed that though he had set apart only a few minutes for Rajaji, he insisted on Rajaji remaining with him for quite a long time, necessitating cancellation of other engagements.

BALANCED PERSONALITY

Like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Rajaji was a forerunner in stressing even in the days of our freedom struggle that India should concentrate on scientific and technical education for wiping out poverty. The same Rajaji pleaded for ban on nuclear weapons. These instances present Pajaji as a balanced personality, avoiding extremes and preferring the golden mean for the benefit of humanity.

As a true democrat, Rajaji turned down the idea of starting special schools to encourage talent. He boldly said—' India wants equality; not excellence." Rajaji's sympathy for the poor and the down-trodden found concrete expression in his Harijan uplift work and agriculturists' debt relief measures. Plain living and high thinking were his hallmark. I learn from his old friends that when they wanted to see him, he would go to them himself, much to their embarassment. This shows his humility and simplicity.

FAR AHEAD

Even long before power was officially transferred into his hands, as the first Indian Governor–General, Rajaji's Prime Ministership of Composite Madras State in the years of Provincial Autonomy had plovided ample proof of his unparallelled administrative capacity, vision and far-sightedness and not only convinced the British rulers that India was fit for self-Government but also earned their admiration for the remarkable ability with which he steered the Ship of State. In all the high offices, he occupied in free India–as Home Minister at the Centre or Governor of west Bengal or again as Chief Minister of Madras–he left his special mark on the administration and earned the love of the people in those turbulent and formative years of our democracy. He has left high traditions which it is not easy for others to follow. His greatness was that he saw far ahead of the times while others were carried away by momentary impulses.

I pay my humble homage to the grat Indian who inspired us and played a leading role in India's liberation and growth. May we perpetuate the memory of Rajaji by spiritualising our public life and making democracy a mode of living?

LEST THEY FORGET

A notice at an office in a military establishment in Scotland, where civilian callers sometimes cause a draught, reads:

"This is a free country. You may open or shut your eyes, ears or mouth as you please, but please shut the door."

From page 4

language) as much as in Sanskrit.

Jayadeva is a Saint-poet. Considering his tremendous influence in the fields of both Sanskrit and Basha literature and his exalted place in the literatue of medieval Vaishnavism, the author of Baktamala in the 16th century has paid glorious encomium which is incorporated in Chapter II.

In Chapter XII, the author gives a short analysis of the 'Gita-Govida', its 8 cantos, and 24 songs and 386 verses. While discussing the concepts of profane love' and 'sacred love' in the 'Gita-Govinda', the author emphatically and eloquently states that the songs must be heard as chanted or sung in the original Sanskrit. I think it would be worthwhile to note the author's observation with which I fully agree:

> "The Gita Govinda in the supreme beauty of its. Verbal melody is simply untranslatable in any other language not attuned to the sprit of the mellifluousness of Sanskrit. The lines, particularly of the songs, must be heard as chanted or sung, to be appreciated.
>
> This exclusive reliance on the beauty of form or outward expression in a piece of literary creation is certainly a drawback or handicap; since, perhaps much more than the form, the subject matter or the content is important. And herein, in the appreciation of the Gita-Govinda, the approach of the reader, his subjective attitude, is the determining factor".

DIFFICULT TASK

In Chapter XIV, the author gives a list of various scholars of both east and the west who wrote about Jayadeva and his "Gita Govinda". Most European scholars of Sanskrit have spoken in highest terms about the "Gita-Govinda" because of its verbal music and its exaltation of woman's beauty and love, and the human soul's yearning for God with description of nature. The author mentions about a few English translations of 'Gita-Govinda' and rightly points out that some of them are not faithful renderings. It is no doubt a difficult task to translate adequately a poem like 'Gita Govinda' from Sanskrit to alien languages like English.

As pointed out by the author, Jayadeva's songs have taken an important place in the history, tradition and present practice of Indian music and Jayadeva has undoubtedly been one of the makers of Indian literature.

The author has taken care in presenting each chapter with a separate topic in two or three pages, easy to read and assimilate.

Though this booklet is a short one, priced at Rs. 2-50p, it contains a great deal of information about Sri Jayadeva and his works apart from the critical study made by the author.—*AIR*

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

AN ADMIRER OF INDIA

"The Indians are poetic, cordial and inquisitive people", wrote Andrei Snesaryev, an eminent Russian orientologist, geographer ethnographer, publicist and gifted organiser, who visited India in the year 1899.

The "Nauka" publishers of Moscow recently brought out a book dedicated to him, which has become an event of importance to the social and scientific circles of the capital.

Snesaryov was born in 1865. After graduation from Moscow University he devoted his talent and efforts to a tireless pursuit of science.

He visited almost inaccessible regions of the Pamir and Kashmir and collected a rich geographical material which became the basis of his fundamental research. He was carried away by India: it thrilled and enchanted him by its beauty, picturesqueness contrasts of nature and social life. He visited such towns as Gilgit, Srinagar Simla, Lahore, Delhi, Agra and others.

Snesaryov was bed-ridden for two weeks in Lahore. It was there that he felt how great were the interests and sympathies of India for the Russian people, whom he represented, and for Russia in general. He made many friends there.

About the British rule in India he wrote in his diary: "Arrogant Englishmen treat them (Indians) cruelly, not missing a chance of humiliating or insulting them...Then how is it possible to infringe on the talent and the flight of thought of the people who had mapped out the fundamentals of grammar and have created such epics as the MAHABHARATHA and RAMAYANA and given the world figures and musical scale? Indians could solve intermediate quadric equations with the socalled cyclic method some, 2,000 years before the Frenchman Lagrange who suggested it in 1769?" he asks.

"The British administration in India", he continues, is a predatory trade management of foreigners who regard the people under their rule as a lower race intellectually, morally and physically, though India is, no doubt, the brightest sign of its prestige and the backbone of its imperialist aspirations."

Snesaryov gave his whole heart to this wonderful country and taught his pupils, Soviet Indologists to love India, and resolutely reject the exotic approach to the country and to study the genuine life of the people.

* * *

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROSPECTS OF ASIAN NATIONS' STRUGGLE FOR PEACE

Spartak Beglov, the leading Soviet Commentator has summed up the achievements of the Asian nations' search for lasting solutions to the problems of peace and security in Asia in the outgoing year and the prospects of further progress in the direction. "The victory won by the Vietnamese people in their struggle to be masters in their own land is one of the important developments of the year. The efforts of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh to normalise the situation in the South Asian sub-continent and restore genuine good-neighbourly relations in the area are signs of positive advance", he stresses.

"But at the same time", he continues, 'there are still in Asia many acute contradictions, big unsettled problems and inter-state disputes as well as seats of tension. Yet the countries of Asia have common interests and the peoples of Asia can find a common language. If this understanding of the pressing needs of peaceful co-operation in Asia has gained firm ground in bilateral exchanges of views, the countries should be able to pool efforts in a multilateral search for a lasting peace. Mr. Spartak Beglov points out.

Referring to the obstacles to the progress of Asian security plan the author says: "It is one thing to deal with real difficulties primarily caused by the continued imperialist military presence, the remaining structure of Western military blocks and the heritage of colonialism; and it is quite another thing to deal with imaginary difficulties created by all manner of anti-Soviet fabrications. It is not hard to see that propaganda subversion against peace and Peking's exercises in anti-Sovietism can only play the role of a brake in meeting the Asian peoples' urgent needs. False stories that the Soviet plan is directed against China are just as absurd as are inventions from the same source that the USSR is 'imposing' collective security on others", he stresses.

"In the Indian policy of Pancha Shila, the Chinese-Indian statements of the mid-50s, the ten principles of the Bandung Conference of Asian states of 1955, the decisions of non-aligned conferences held in recent years...there sounded the unanimous conclusions about the need for asserting in life the principles of good-neighbourliness and cooperation.

"Asia can and must become a continent of peace, friendship and cooperation", Spartak Beglov concludes.

* * *

HOW MOSCOW IS KEPT CLEAN

Many visitors to Moscow admire not only the beauty of the capital, but its cleanliness as well. How is the city kept so clean?

Moscow covers a territory of 50 million square metres of streets, avenues and lanes. Besides the thoroughfares, there are 143 bridges, 13 tunnels, 120 underground pedestrian crossings and 58 lakes and ponds. The 2,000 hectares of greenery and flowerbeds must not be forgotten, nor the 100-kilometre-long "green belt" of the circular motorway around Moscow.

Some 4,300 specially equipped vehicles perform the work of watering, sweeping, washing, garbage disposal, snow removal, sanding and much else. Over 20,000 people are employed to operate and service these machines.

Thieves In Clerks' Clothing

Employee theft, much of it in pilferage of small items, costs business and industry millions of dollars a year. Yet many employers have found it distressing to fire an other wise valuable employee for minor theft. To this rescue: a supply of thieves ready and willing to be caught as an example to others.

The Long Island woman who founded THEFT (The Honest Employes Fooling Thieves) proved the uncommon value to an ordinary idea. Unemployed actors are hired by employers having trouble with pilferage, work long enough to gain credibility, are caught in the act, subjected to humiliation and fired.

Hiring people to be fired is a sensible approach to a plaguing problem. Jobs and reputations are spared and employers can't take credit for choosing this solution. It only works if nobody knows about it.

—Milwaukee Journal

Super Trees

It's a well established fact that people all over the world are getting taller with each succeeding generation—but it's less well known that similar growth potential also exists in trees.

Agricultural geneticists are hard at work on a number of new techniques that appear to help all kinds of timber—softwood and hardwood alike—grow to maturity in almost half the normal time. The implications for a wood-poor world are significant: The demand for wood pulp, containers, wallboard, newsprint and lumber for houses and other construction can be met if these new methods prove effective in literally producing twice as much wood in the world's forested areas.

To induce trees to grow faster scientists use techniques similar to those farmers employ to produce better cattle: prime breeding stock. "We pick the very best tree out of a good stand," says Philip F. Hahn a researcher for the Georgia-Pacific Corporation, a leading U.S. forest products industry. Then twigs from this tree are grafted onto young seedlings which then are carefully planted in seed orchards. Properly cared for, the seedlings respond with rapid growth, generally twice as fast as the normal rate.

Other researchers inject hormones into the trees to force them to flower early, further accelerating the growth process. It's now been established that some hardwood trees—used for furniture, bowling alleys and wood pulp—may be brought to maturity in just one-third the usual time: 25 years instead of 75.

Rapid growth isn't the only improvement noted in the super-trees. At the International Paper Company's experimental forest in Georgia, scientists are producing towering pine trees that grow fast and also have straighter trunks, fewer knots, higher wood density, longer fibres and greater immunity to disease than ever before. Witin four to five years, the company expects its entire 4,000-hectare tract to be planted with super-trees.

Georgia-Pacific controls 1.8 hectares of American timberland. It also has cutting rights in an additional 500,000-hectare tract. In addition to breeding supertrees, G-P follows a selected thinning process—a weeding out of unhealthy trees or those stunted in growth.

With the current shortages of minerals and fossil fuels, companies like International Paper and Georgia-Pacific are doing their bit to see that wood supplies increase rapidly enough to meet the anticipated rise in demand.

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unded". As for the ideas of some inventors, such as building a dam through Bering Strait to fence off the Pacific from the Arctic Ocean, they should be treated with caution. In the opinion of experts, primarily nature would suffer from such a "barrier".

Despite its bleakness the Arctic Ocean can become man's friend, if it be studied thoroughly, if its image that had taken shape during the ages is not destroyed.

The real study of the Arctic Ocean began a little over a half a century ago, when by a decree signed by V. I. Lenin the world's first research institute to study the northern seas was set up.

In our times its work is carried on by dozens of research organisations, large groups of scientists. They are continuing to delve into the secrets of the ocean by air, sea and automobile expeditions. Indeed, this is what we can call the expeditions conducted on tractor-sleighs and cross country vehicles along the coast, and on ice-floes.

There is no doubt that in the future we shall be able to work directly at the bottom of the Arctic Ocean. Designers are thinking about deep water motor vehicles, amphibians with whose assistance it is easier to explore the Arctic.

Soon the world's first geological vessel will set sail. This is the ice breaker KRASIN, which on V. I. Lenin's assignment conveyed in 1921 a ship caravan with Siberian bread, and in 1928 took part in the rescue of the Nobile expedition. It has to its credit also many other great deeds. Now the legendary KRASIN has assumed a new image reconstruction.

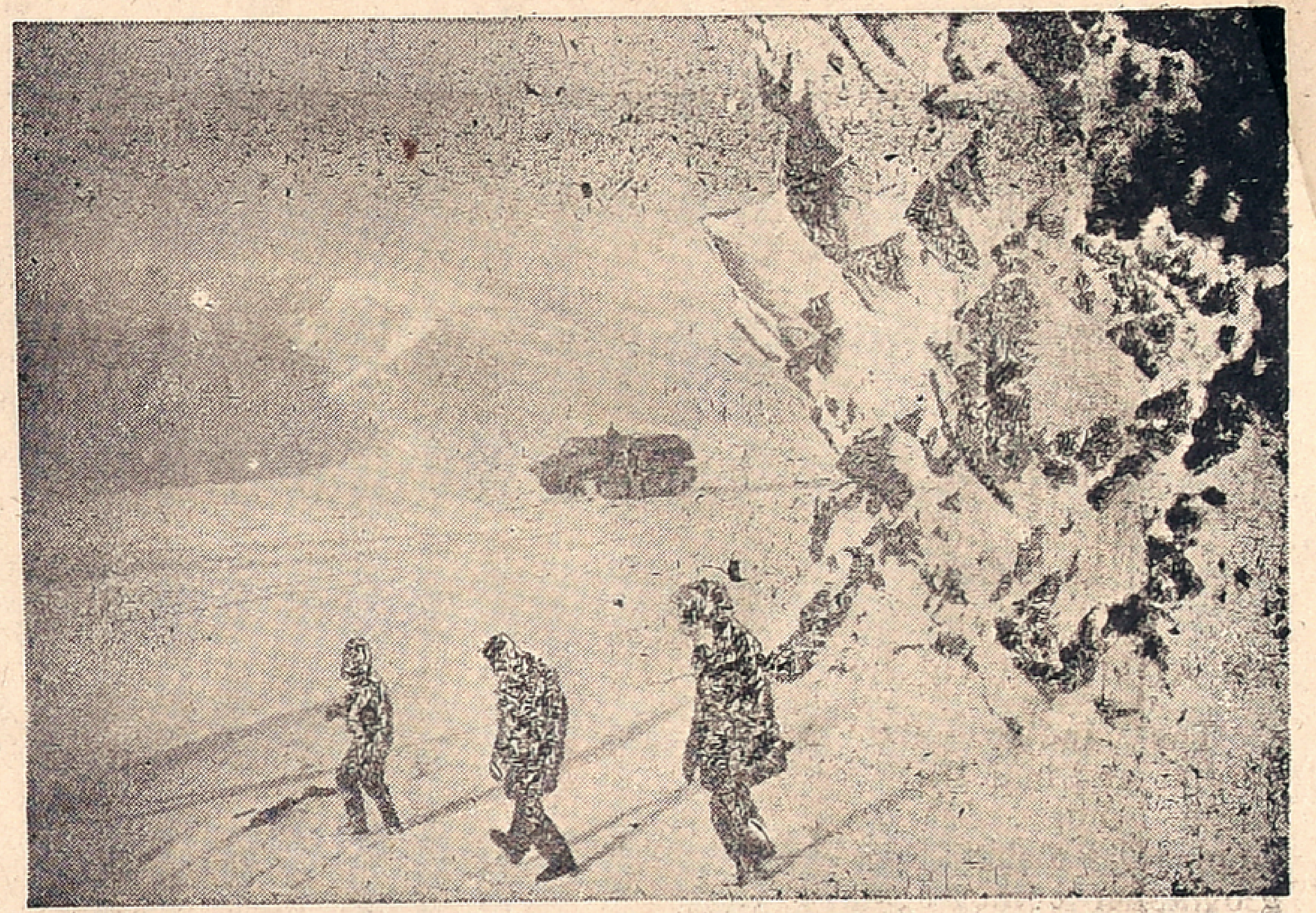
The time is not far off when submarine apparatus will come to the KRASIN's assistance and all the secrets of the ocean connected with the extraction of natural wealth will be learned. In the opinion of some scientists explorers will be able to walk at the bottom of the Arctic Ocean, living in well-appointed underwater townlets.

Also, noteworthy is the important role played by outer space in the study of the Ocean. Man-made satellites of the earth launched on Polar orbits make it possible to view the Arctic Ocean as if it is lying in the palm of one's hand.

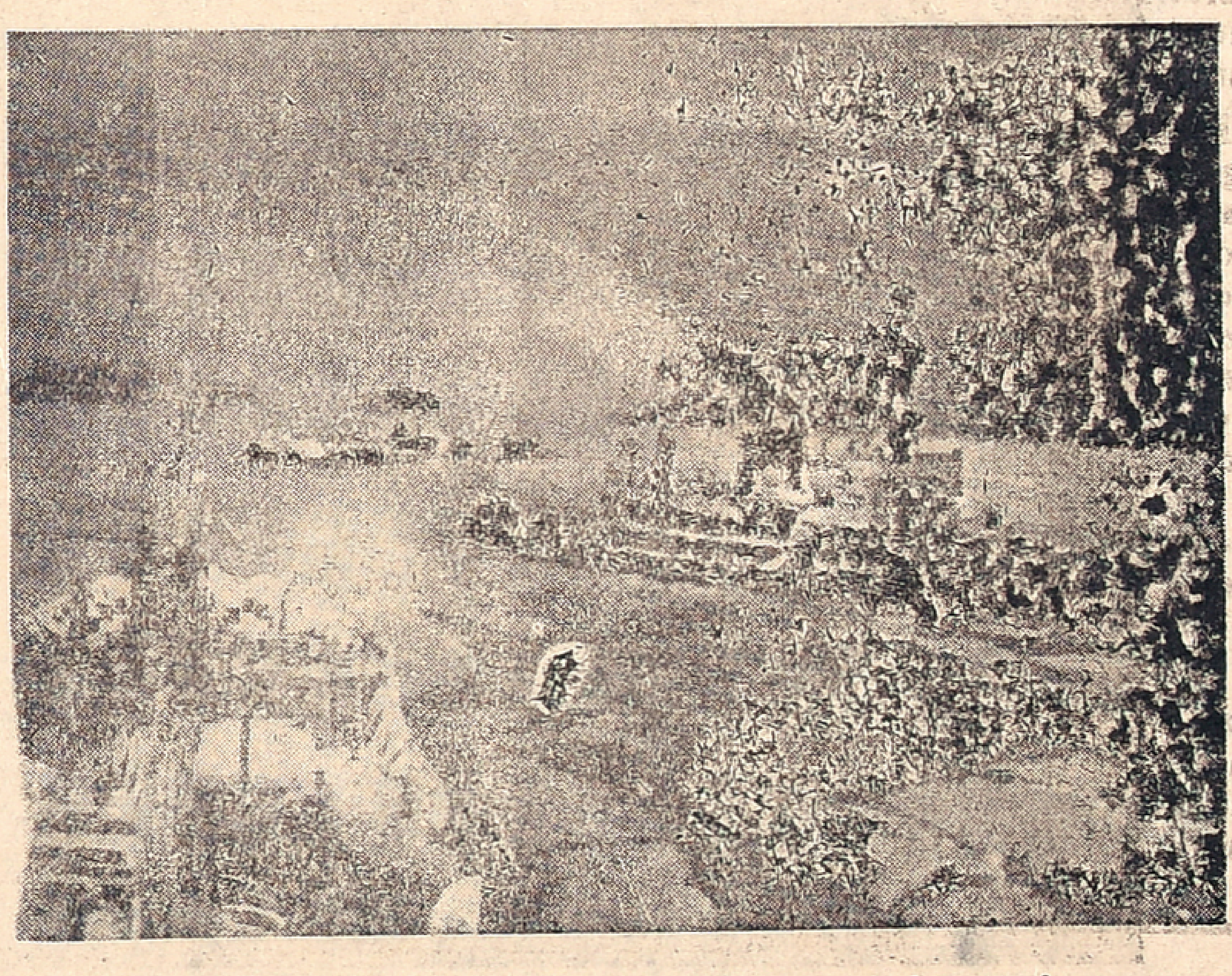
Technical equipment is the chief instrument in the conquest of the ocean. No wonder the appearance of the new atomic ship ARKTIKA is awaited here impatiently. Also, other technical devices capable of operating in difficult places even at the Pole, helping science to unravel secrets, are expected. And there are plenty of such secrets in the Arctic Ocean. For instance, it has been established that not only at the bottom but also on the very surface cold water contains all the elements of the Mendeleyev Periodic Table. But how are they to be obtained?

Other riddles are bound up with the colossal energy of the Arctic Ocean, the energy of its tides. There is already under construction in the USSR a tidal power plant in which the elements will serve mankind. And to how many more uses can they be put? For instance think of the very same cold. Not by eliminating it but by taking advantage of it, humanity has the opportunity to make use of this tremendous energy for natural cooling and long preservation of food, perishable goods, and also for conducting technological experiments.

The horizons for the mastery of the Arctic Ocean are boundless and, the Soviet men of science have set themselves the noble aims of working for the sake of gaining more knowledge, for the radiant future of people all over the world.

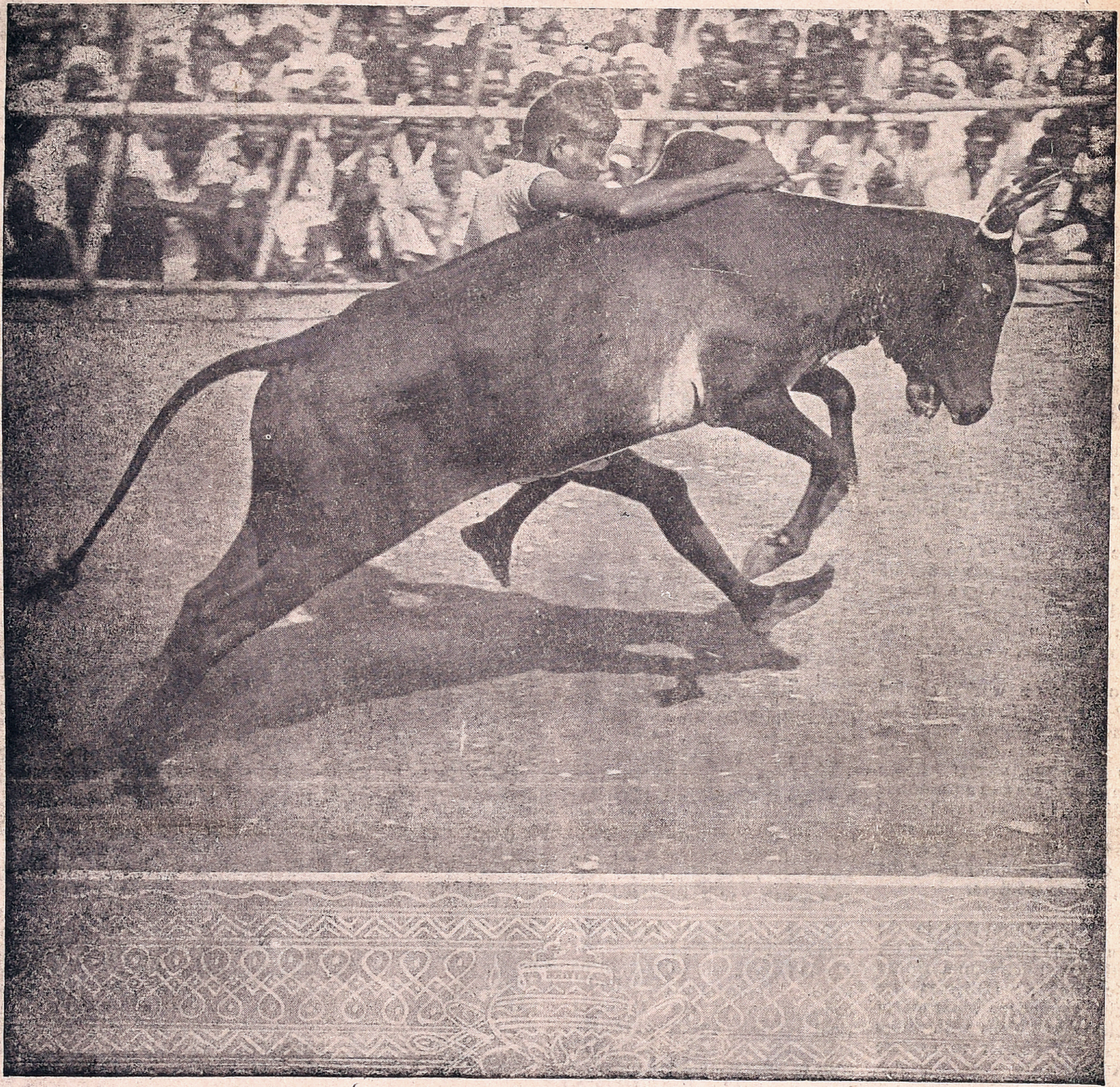


The Arctic is still full of mysteries...



The Arctic is no more an inaccessible region

Underwater explorations in the Arctic Ocean



Jallikattu

People of Tamil Nadu are lovers of sports. Nowadays they play all modern games like cricket, football, volleyball, hockey and Tennis. Great sportsmen in all these fields, considered equal to the top men in the world, have come from Tamil Nadu. But rural Tamil Nadu has its own types of sports and pastime like Chadu-Gudu, Kittipul, Kilithattu etc. The most popular and exciting is Jallikattu in which young men compete with each other in exhibiting their valour by stopping ferocious bulls let loose at a special ground.

—*Courtesy*: *Asian Travels News*

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